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Cultural Affairs Committee

9-26-2003

Distinguished Lecture- Rabbi Michael Lerner

University of Maine

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THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS/DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES COMMITTEE GRANT APPLICATION

PROVIDE 10 (TEN) COPIES, INCLUDING THE ORIGINAL.
PLEASE PLACE A COPY OF THIS COVER SHEET ON TOP OF EACH COPY

I.	Applicant/Organization: <i>Schonberger Memorial Lecture Committee</i>								
II.	a. Responsible Organization Officer: <i>Virginia Nees-Hatlen</i> b. Title: <i>Assoc. Prof. & Interim Director, Center for Teaching Excellence</i> c. Campus Address (include EMail and Telephone): <i>Virginia Nees on First Class 581-3477</i>								
III.	Summary of program requiring funding (title; featured artist(s); speaker(s); scheduled date (s): <i>"Social Transformation and Psycho-Spiritual Healing: Strategies for Peace and Justice in the Era of George Bush and Ariel Sharon." A lecture by Rabbi Michael Lerner on Nov. 6, 2003.</i>								
Expand in fuller detail, a supporting statement with <u>detailed, itemized budget</u> . Funding for current application is contingent upon submission of detailed budget and attendance report for any previous years' grants.									
IV.	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">a. Total funding required for program:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">> <i>4033-4333</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Amount committed by applicant organization:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">> <i>1923-2223</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Amount committed by/requested of (please indicate which) other funding sources:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">> <i>110</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">> <i>2000</i></td> </tr> </table>	a. Total funding required for program:	> <i>4033-4333</i>	b. Amount committed by applicant organization:	> <i>1923-2223</i>	c. Amount committed by/requested of (please indicate which) other funding sources:	> <i>110</i>	d. Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee:	> <i>2000</i>
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Signature of responsible organization officer/date: <i>Virginia Nees-Hatlen</i> <i>9-26-03</i> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> SIGNATURE DATE </div>									

SPACE BELOW FOR COMMITTEE USE:

\$1750

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
C/O PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
200 ALUMNI HALL

September 26, 2003

PROPOSAL

To: Cultural Affairs Committee
c/o Wanda Legere
200 Alumni Hall

From: Virginia Nees-Hatlen for the Schonberger Memorial Lecture Committee
Center for Teaching Excellence 210 Crossland Hall x13477

About: **Distinguished Lecturer Funding** for Nov. 6, 2003, lecture by Rabbi Michael Lerner: "Social Transformation and Psycho-Spiritual Healing: Strategies for Peace and Justice in the Era of George Bush and Ariel Sharon."

Request

The Schonberger Memorial Lecture Committee is asking Cultural Affairs/DLS to share costs for the forthcoming lecture by Rabbi Michael Lerner: "Social Transformation and Psycho-Spiritual Healing: Strategies for Peace and Justice in the Era of George Bush and Ariel Sharon." The lecture, to be given at 7:30 pm on Thursday, November 6, 2003, in 100 DPC, is free and open to the public, which in past years has been a substantial part of the audience for the annual event. We are requesting \$ 2000 from the Distinguished Lecture Series and contributing between \$1923 and \$2223 from the Howard B. Schonberger Memorial Gift Fund. The UM History Department is paying \$60, and the Women in the Curriculum Program is contributing \$50 in-kind on publicity flyers, for a total of \$ 2033 to 2333 in matching funding.

Background

The Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Justice Memorial Lecture is partially funded by a University of Maine gift account in the Development Office. Donors to the Schonberger Gift Fund include the late Professor Schonberger's friends, colleagues, and family, as well as local community peace activists. The annual lecture series is charged to honor Professor Schonberger's service both as historian of 20th century American diplomatic history and as an activist in local and national struggles for peace and justice around the world. A committee composed of five UM faculty members and a community member active in peace organizations plans the lectures. All of the speakers have been national figures distinguished in scholarship as well as active in communities working for peace and social justice.

Nine previous lectures have been well attended by the university community and by members of the greater Bangor/midcoast community, especially those who are engaged in continuing peace and justice work. The Bangor Peace and Justice Center and Peace through Intercommunity Action (PICA), for example, are two groups in which Professor Schonberger played a major role; they are also sources for the lecture's audience. Last year, the lecture was given by Dr. Joan Wallach Scott, Harold F. Linder Professor in the School of Social Science of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton since 1985. She spoke on the topic of "Feminist Reverberations: Critiques of Power and Forms of Resistance in the Age of Globalization." The audience was approximately 125 people. Two years ago, the lecture was given Dr. Michael P. Johnson, Associate Professor of Sociology, Women's Studies, and African and African American Studies at Penn State. He spoke on the topic of "Gender and the Importance of Distinguishing among Types of Partner Violence." The audience was around 300 people. Three years ago, the lecture was given by John W. Dower, Elting E. Morrison Professor of History at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He spoke on the topic of "Embracing Defeat: Peace and Democracy in Post-war Japan," the subject of his most recent book, which had just won both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. The audience was between 175 and 200 people.

Program

Many past Schonberger lectures have focused on global or political topics; last year, the speaker looked at feminist theory and women's issues as they relate to global change. This year, the speaker will look at competing visions of global change and power, those coming from political-economic analyses and those from western spiritual and moral traditions. He will focus specifically on the Israel-Palestine conflict and on the U.S. role in it and its ramifications throughout the region and the world. After a lecture of about one hour, the floor will be open to questions and comments from the audience.

Rabbi Lerner's Schonberger memorial lecture will be part of a visit that will include a Socialist and Marxist Luncheon Series talk on "The Globalization of Spirit vs. the Globalization of Selfishness: Critical Contradictions of Advanced Capitalist Societies in the 21st Century." Both talks will be expressions of Rabbi Lerner's long interest in peace with social justice. He speaks from a critical perspective with roots in the social theory of Marx and also in the faith and traditions of Judaism.

In addition to appealing to large numbers of students and faculty members on campus, Rabbi Lerner's work is of particular interest to the larger community in central and mid-coast Maine. Members of the local peace and social justice communities have already received publicity about the lecture, as will local Jewish communities and networks of scholars and activists in the struggle for a peaceful solution to middle eastern conflicts.

The Speaker

Rabbi Michael Lerner is well known in academic and Jewish communities as the founder and editor of *Tikkun*, since 1986 one of the nation's liveliest intellectual monthly magazines. Besides his rabbinical degree, he holds doctorates in both Philosophy (1972, UC Berkeley) and clinical psychology (Wright Institute, 1977). His writing, editing, and speaking combine his scholarly backgrounds and his passionate interest in the intersection of social, political, cultural, and moral concerns.

As well as being a highly visible contemporary man of letters and intellectual, Lerner has been praised as a significant voice in the Jewish tradition and community. Abraham Joshua Heschel of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, for example, the world's leading authority on the tradition of the Biblical Jewish Prophets, praised Rabbi Lerner and placed him within that prophetic tradition. Speaking to our contemporary crises of the worship of wealth and materialism and the lack of ethical and spiritual meaning in our lives, Lerner is both deeply traditional and at the cutting-edge.

Rabbi Lerner's recent books include *Spirit Matters* (Walsh Books/Hampton Roads, 2000); *The Politics of Meaning: Restoring Hope and Possibility in an Age of Cynicism* (Addison-Wesley Longman/Perseus, 1996); and (with Cornel West) *Jews and Blacks: A Dialogue on Race, Religion and Culture in America* (Putnam, 1995). He also edited *Best Contemporary Jewish Writing* (Jossey-Bass, 2001).

Budget

The gift account for the Schonberger lecture is slowly growing with annually solicited contributions, although the market downturn has affected the fund recently. The Cultural Affairs Committee has provided partial support for all nine previous lectures (\$950 in 2002; \$650 in 2001; \$732 in 2000; \$1065 in 1998; the previous year \$633), and we hope they will continue until the fund is able to generate funds that should fully cover our more expensive/distant speakers. This year, we have invited a national figure who usually gets a much larger honorarium consistent with his wide appeal. We are asking for substantial help to pay the smaller fee we negotiated, because it is still very substantial for the series.

The Schonberger Gift Fund (SGF) administered by the UM Development Office will be able to underwrite this year \$ 2033 to 2333 of the total costs, budgeted at between \$4033 and 4333 pending final costs for transportation. This figure includes a portion of the honorarium, travel, meals, publicity, recording, and a reception (we understand that this cannot be paid by the DLS fund). We have figured an estimated cost range for travel from one of two possible points of departure for Rabbi Lerner. He is still making arrangements for a tentative trip to Israel before Nov. 6, and until that plan is final, we have to be flexible in this estimate. \$60 for postage for publicity for the lecture will be contributed by the UM History Department (HTY); and the Women in the Curriculum Program (WIC) is contributing flyers worth \$50. We are asking CA/DLS to contribute \$2000 toward the honorarium of \$2500.

	Costs	Contributions
Honorarium	2500	500 SGF
Lodging	188 (2 nights, Sheraton)	188 SGF
Transportation airplane ticket	700-1000 (est.) Reservation pending Rabbi Lerner's schedule; may be rd. trip San Francisco or NYC	700-1000 SGF
Meals	40 (dinner out) 15 (two lunches)	40 15 SGF
Publicity		
Printing posters	175	175 SGF
Flyers	50	50 (WIC)
Postage	60	60 (HTY)
Sound System	30	30 SGF
Videotaping	115	115 SGF
Reception	150	150 SGF
<hr/>		
Total Costs	\$ 4033-4333	Contributions 2033-2333 (pending airfare)
Total Contributions	\$ 2033-2333	Schonberger Gift Fund 1923-2223
		History Dept. 60
Total Requested of CA/DLS	\$ 2000	WIC 50

Cultural Affairs Committee
including the
Distinguished Lecture Series
200 Alumni Hall
University of Maine

October 6, 2003

To: Virginia Nees-Hatlen

From: Kathleen March & François Amar, Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Cultural Affairs Committee, including the Distinguished Lecture Series, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that your proposal, Rabbi Michael Lerner Lecture, has been awarded \$1,750.00. **Please contact Wanda Legere at 1-1516 before your event takes place to arrange for disbursement of award funds.** Note: Reception and University of Maine System payroll expenses are not reimbursable through this award.

Please note that acknowledgment of the *Cultural Affairs Committee* is required on all promotional materials. **A budget report must be submitted at the conclusion of your event and will be considered for future funding requests.** It is assumed that projects are completed within 12 months, therefore, any remaining balance will be returned to the Committee account for further distribution unless otherwise notified.

The Committee notes that it does not fund more than 50% of the amount for any given program. It also asks applicants to consider the most reasonable honoraria possible, as there may not be funding for the higher amounts.

We, the members of the Cultural Affairs Committee, congratulate you and wish you much success on this project.